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AIR POUCH UNCLASSIFIED 1543338

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY BONN

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

126
Desp.No.

REF : CERP, March 30, 1954, Section D, Item 1 (B-47)

SUBJECT: Volkswagen Annual Report for 1955 July 19, 1956

The anomalous position of the Volkswagenwerke - one of the most successful automobile manufacturing firms in Europe, for which the ownership remains to be clarified - causes Americans to have special interest in its activities.

For this reason the Embassy transmits herewith copies in German of the Annual Report for 1955 and a copy of a translation of an article which appeared in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung of July 13, 1956 regarding this report.

The Department will recall that a number of suits have been lodged in German courts by various claimants for the ownership of Volkswagen. As some of these suits are still pending, there is no liklihood of an immediate clarification of the ownership of the plant, and it is likely that the government will continue its trusteeship on the basis of which it appoints a board of trustees from among high-rating civil servants.

Enclosures:

Annual Report 1955
Report on Activities
Translation

For the Ambassador:

Donald B. Calder
First Secretary of Embassy

DBCalder:DMLester:GBotsios

DEPT OF STATE review(s) completed.

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